GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1302
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2015
SPREAD OF VIRUSES BY IMPORTED FLOWERS
Kashyap Shri Virender

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some viruses are being carried by imported flowers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the import of Orchid plants used for decoration has been banned; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) & (b): All imported plant material, including flowers, are subjected to plant quarantine inspection at the port of arrival and released after ensuring freedom from pests including viruses.

(c): No, Madam. The import of Orchid plants used for decoration/ propagation is not banned and regulated as per the provisions of Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) Order, 2003.

(d): Does not arise.